

§ 233.12

(6) After screening, mail sealed against inspection that presents doubts about whether its contents are hazardous, that cannot be resolved without opening, must be reported to the Postal Inspection Service. Such mail must be disposed of under instructions promptly furnished by the Inspection Service.

(b) *Threatening pieces of mail.* Mail, sealed or unsealed, reasonably suspected of posing an immediate danger to life or limb or an immediate and substantial danger to property may, without a search warrant, be detained, opened, removed from postal custody, and processed or treated, but only to the extent necessary to determine and eliminate the danger and only if a complete written and sworn statement of the detention, opening, removal, or treatment, and the circumstances that prompted it, signed by the person purporting to act under this section, is promptly forwarded to the Chief Postal Inspector.

(c) *Reports.* Any person purporting to act under this section who does not report his or her action to the Chief Postal Inspector under the requirements of this section, or whose action is determined after investigation not to have been authorized, is subject to disciplinary action or criminal prosecution or both.

[61 FR 28060, June 4, 1996]

§ 233.12 Civil penalties.

False representation and lottery orders—

(a) *Issuance.* Pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 3005, the Judicial Officer of the Postal Service, acting upon a satisfactory evidentiary basis, may issue a mail return and/or a cease and desist order against anyone engaged in conducting a scheme or device for obtaining money or property through the mail by means of a false representation, including the mailing of matter which is non-mailable, or engaged in conducting a lottery, gift enterprise, or scheme for the distribution of money or of real or personal property, by lottery, chance, or drawing of any kind.

(b) *Enforcement.* Pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 3012, any person:

(1) Who, through the use of the mail, evades or attempts to evade the effect

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of an order issued under 39 U.S.C. 3005(a)(1) or 3005(a)(2);

(2) Who fails to comply with an order issued under 39 U.S.C. 3005(a)(3); or

(3) Who (other than a publisher described by 39 U.S.C. 3007(b)) has actual knowledge of any such order, is in privacy with any person described by paragraph (b) (1) or (2) of this section, and engages in conduct to assist any such person to evade, attempt to evade, or fail to comply with such order, as the case may be, through the use of the mail;

Shall be liable to the United States for a civil penalty in an amount not to exceed \$11,000 for each day that such person engages in conduct described by this paragraph (b). A separate penalty may be assessed under this paragraph (b) with respect to the conduct described by paragraphs (b) (1), (2), or (3) of this section.

[61 FR 56450, Nov. 1, 1996]

PART 235—DEFENSE DEPARTMENT LIAISON

Sec.

235.1 Postal Service to the Armed Forces.

235.2 Civil preparedness.

§ 235.1 Postal Service to the Armed Forces.

(a) Publication 38, Postal Agreement with the Department of Defense, defines the Postal Service's responsibilities for providing postal service to the Armed Forces.

(b) The Chief Inspector is responsible for military liaison.

(c) Postal inspectors provide liaison between postmasters and military commanders, visit military installations as required, and make any necessary recommendations.

(39 U.S.C. 401(2), 402, 403, 404, as enacted by Pub. L. 91-375, 84 Stat. 719)

[38 FR 26193, Sept. 9, 1973]

§ 235.2 Civil preparedness.

(a) *Mission.* The prime objective of postal emergency preparedness planning is to maintain or restore essential postal service in a national emergency, natural disaster, or disruptive domestic crisis.

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(b) *Emergency Coordinator.* The Chief Inspector is designated Emergency Coordinator for the Postal Service. As Emergency Coordinator, he provides general direction and coordination of the following programs:

- (1) National Civil Preparedness and Defense Mobilization;
- (2) Natural Disaster Preparedness;
- (3) Emergency Response to Disruptive Domestic Crisis.

(c) *Regional Emergency Coordinator.* The Chief Inspector may delegate authority to Regional Chief Postal Inspectors, or others, for the function of Regional Emergency Coordinator and the general direction and coordination of all such programs within the Postal Regions, as are conducted by him at the National level.

(d) *Postmaster General emergency line of succession.* (1) Deputy Postmaster General; (2) Senior Assistant Postmaster General, Administration; (3) Senior Assistant Postmaster General, Operations.

(e) *Headquarters and field lines of succession.* Each Headquarters organizational unit shall establish its own internal line of succession to provide for continuity under emergency conditions. Each Regional Postmaster General, Regional Chief Inspector, Postal Data Center Director, Inspector in Charge, and postmaster at first-class post offices shall prepare a succession list of officials who will act in his stead in the event he is incapacitated or absent in an emergency. Orders of succession shall be shown by position titles, except those of the Inspection Service may be shown by names.

(f) *Field responsibilities.* Postmasters and heads of other installations shall:

- (1) Carry out civil preparedness assignments, programs, etc., as directed by regional officials.
- (2) Comply with, and cooperate in community civil preparedness plans (including exercise) for evacuation, take cover and other survival measures prescribed for local populations.
- (3) Designate representatives for continuing liaison with local civil preparedness organizations where such activity will not interfere with normal duties.
- (4) Endeavor to serve (at their own option) as members on the staff of the

local civil preparedness director, provided such service will not interfere with their primary postal responsibility in an emergency.

(5) Authorize and encourage their employees to participate voluntarily in nonpostal pre-emergency training programs and exercises in cooperation with States and localities.

(39 U.S.C. 401(2), 402, 403, 404, as enacted by Pub. L. 91-375, 84 Stat. 719)

[38 FR 26193, Sept. 9, 1973]

Post Office Organization and Administration

PART 241—ESTABLISHMENT CLASSIFICATION, AND DISCONTINUANCE

Sec.

241.1 Post offices.

241.2 Stations and branches.

241.3 Discontinuance of USPS-operated retail facilities.

241.4 Expansion, relocation, and construction of post offices.

AUTHORITY: 39 U.S.C. 101, 401, 403, 404, 410, 1001.

§ 241.1 Post offices.

Post Offices are established and maintained at locations deemed necessary to ensure that regular and effective postal services are available to all customers within specified geographic boundaries. A Post Office may be operated or staffed by a postmaster or by another type of postal employee at the direction of the postmaster, including when the postmaster is not physically present. A Remotely Managed Post Office (RMPO) is a Post Office that offers part-time window service hours, is staffed by a Postal Service employee under the direction of a postmaster, and reports to an Administrative Post Office. A Part-Time Post Office (PTPO) is a Post Office that offers part-time window service hours, is staffed by a Postal Service employee, and reports to a district office. Unless otherwise specified, all references to "Post Office" include RMPOs and PTPOs.

[77 FR 46950, Aug. 7, 2012]